

National Aeronautics and
Space Administration

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California Institute of Technology
Pasadena, California

JPL Missions Overview

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**Jet Propulsion Laboratory
California Institute of Technology**



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Outline

- **NASA's Compelling questions**
- **What is JPL**
- **JPL Vision for Space Exploration**
- **JPL Current Missions**
- **Recent Scientific findings**
- **Mars Science Laboratory Mission Overview**

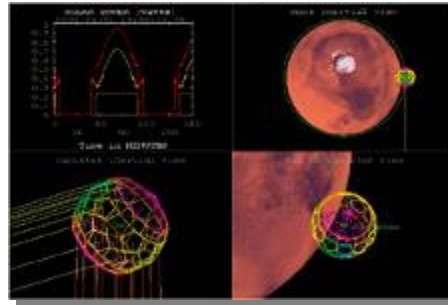


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End-to-end capabilities needed to implement missions



Project Formulation - Team X



Mission Design



Mars Rovers



**Large Structures -
SRTM**



Ion Engines

Spacecraft Development



**Integration and
Test**



**Environmental
Test**



Real Time Operations

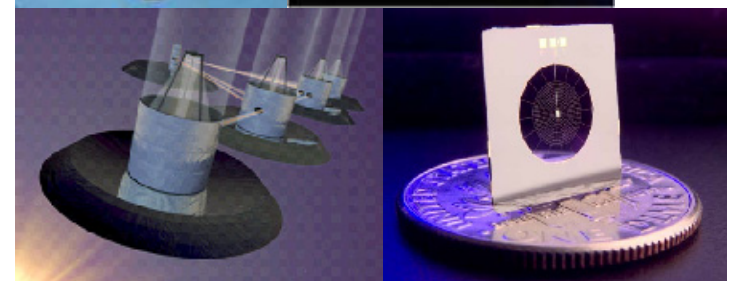
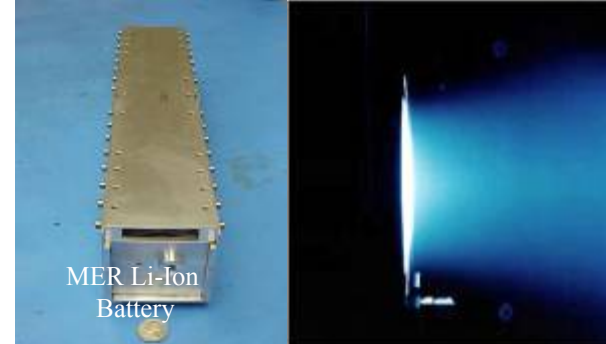
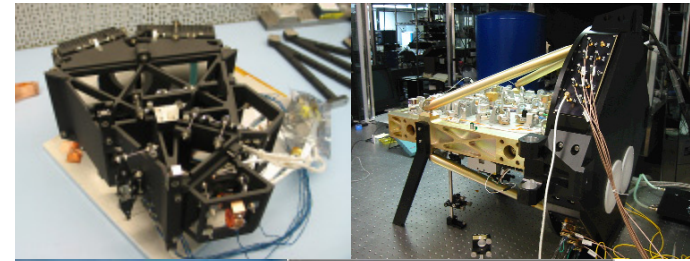


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Research and technology Development

- **Technology to enable future missions: Examples:**
 - **Mapping Reflected energy Spectrometer (MaRS):**
 - Next generation imaging spectrometer for Earth and planetary remote sensing
 - **Laser Absorption Spectrometer (LAS):**
 - Global scale profiling of tropospheric carbon dioxide
 - **Lithium ion battery:**
 - Large mass and volume savings with improved performance
 - **Ion engine:**
 - Long-life (>30,000 hours) mission-enabling characterization
 - **Formation flying:**
 - Simulation of mission-enabling technology for Terrestrial Planet Finder, Earth Science and astrophysics applications
 - **Long wave detectors for astrophysics**
 - Far infrared and sub-millimeter high sensitivity detectors





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JPL long-term role in Vision for Exploration

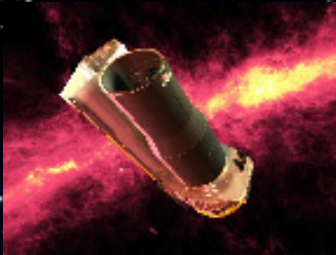
- **“Explore the solar system and beyond.”**
 - Mars exploration program
 - Solar system robotic exploration: outer planets and their moons
 - Search for extra-solar planets
 - Origins program and astrophysics of galaxies and the universe
 - Deep space telecommunications and navigation support
- **“Human presence across the solar system.”**
 - Continuing and increasing support to ESMD Constellation program
- **“Innovative technologies, knowledge and infrastructures.”**
 - Continuing technology developments: telecommunications; planetary entry, descent and landing; navigation, guidance and control; deployable structures; power sources and energy storage; observational instruments; flight and ground computer hardware and software; robotics and autonomy
- **“International and commercial participation.”**
 - Continuing partnerships with commercial and international partners: e.g., MRO built by LMSSC, Huygens Titan lander (on Cassini) by ESA.



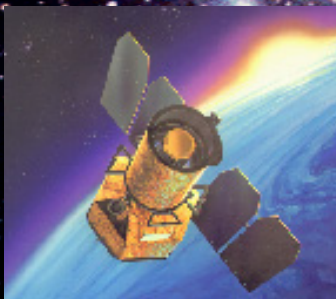
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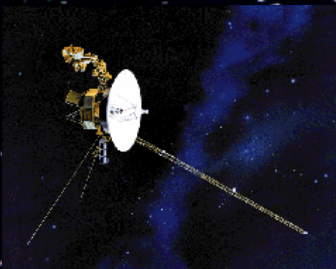
Eighteen spacecraft and five instruments across the solar system (and beyond).



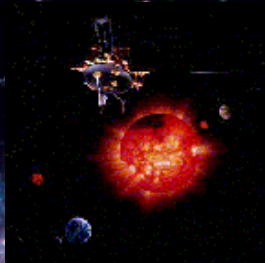
**Spitzer studying stars and
galaxies in the infrared**



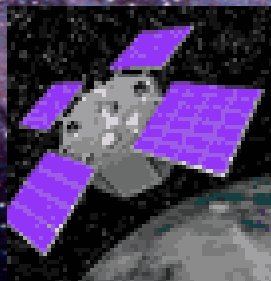
**GALEX surveying galaxies
in the ultraviolet**



**Two Voyagers on an
interstellar mission**



**Ulysses and
ACRIMSAT studying
the sun**



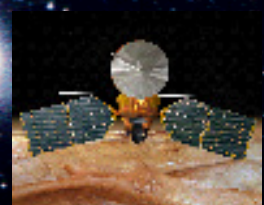
Cassini studying Saturn



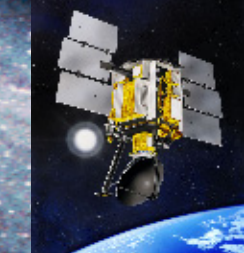
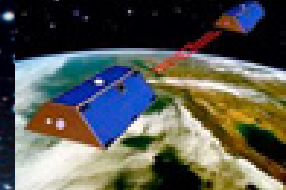
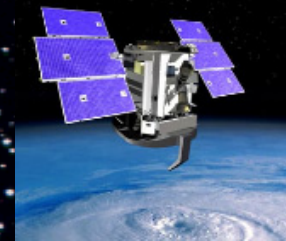
**Stardust carrier
continuing after sample
return**



**Deep Impact carrier
continuing after hitting
comet Tempel 1**



**Mars Global Surveyor, Mars
Odyssey, and MRO in orbit around
Mars. "Spirit" and "Opportunity"
in extended missions.**



**QuikScat, Jason 1, CloudSat, and GRACE
(plus ASTER, MISR, AIRS, MLS and TES
instruments) monitoring Earth.**

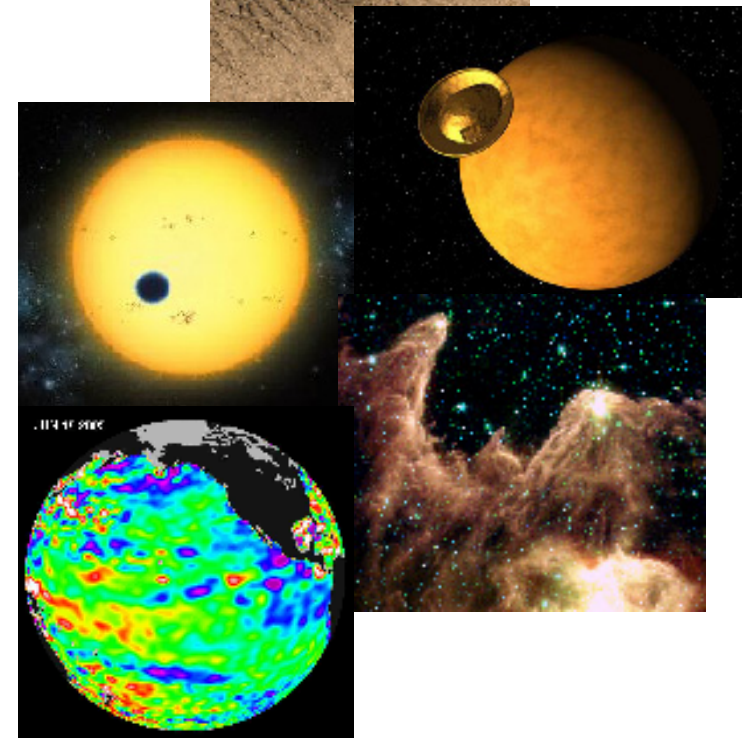
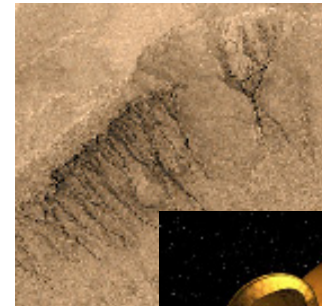


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Five major current JPL programs

1. Mars exploration: Follow the water
2. Life-friendly sites in the solar system
3. Extra-solar planets
4. Origins of galaxies and the universe
5. Our home planet, Earth





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Five major current JPL projects

- **In operations:**

- Deep Space Network
- Mars:
 - Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter
 - Mars Exploration Rovers
 - Mars Odyssey
 - Mars Global Surveyor
- Spitzer Space Telescope
- Cassini Saturn orbiter
- Earth Science:
 - Gravity Recovery and Climate Experiment (GRACE)
 - Jason ocean elevation
 - CloudSat

- **In development:**

- **Mars Science Laboratory (2009)**
- Space Interferometer Mission –SIM (2015)
- Phoenix Mars polar lander (2007)
- Juno Jupiter orbiter (2010)
- Orbiting Carbon Observatory



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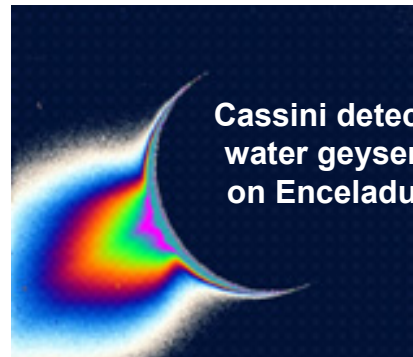
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JPL major accomplishments of 2006

**MRO in Mars
orbit**



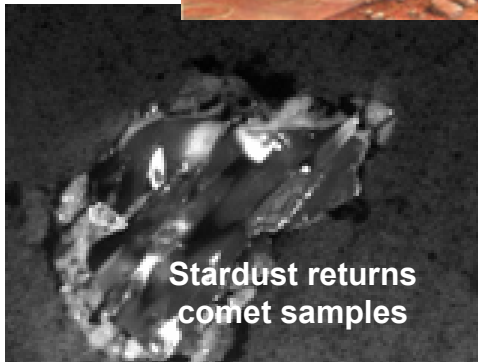
**Cassini detects
water geysers
on Enceladus**



CloudSat launched



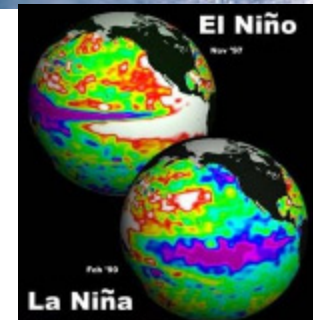
**Stardust returns
comet samples**



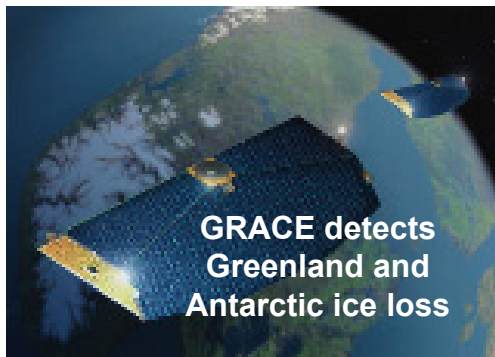
**MER rovers in tenth
warranty period**



**Topex/Poseidon
completes 14-
year mission**



**GRACE detects
Greenland and
Antarctic ice loss**



**Spitzer defines
structure of Milky
Way spiral arms**



**SIM completes
technology
readiness gates**





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A permanent presence on Mars



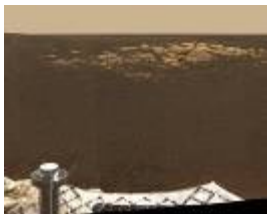
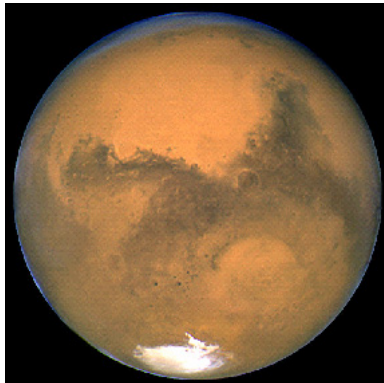
Odyssey
2001



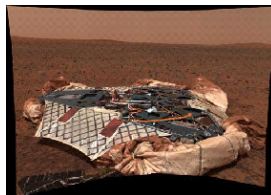
MRO
2005



MGS
1996



Opportunity
2003



Spirit
2003

*With robotic explorers we have
discovered that water flowed on
the surface of Mars*

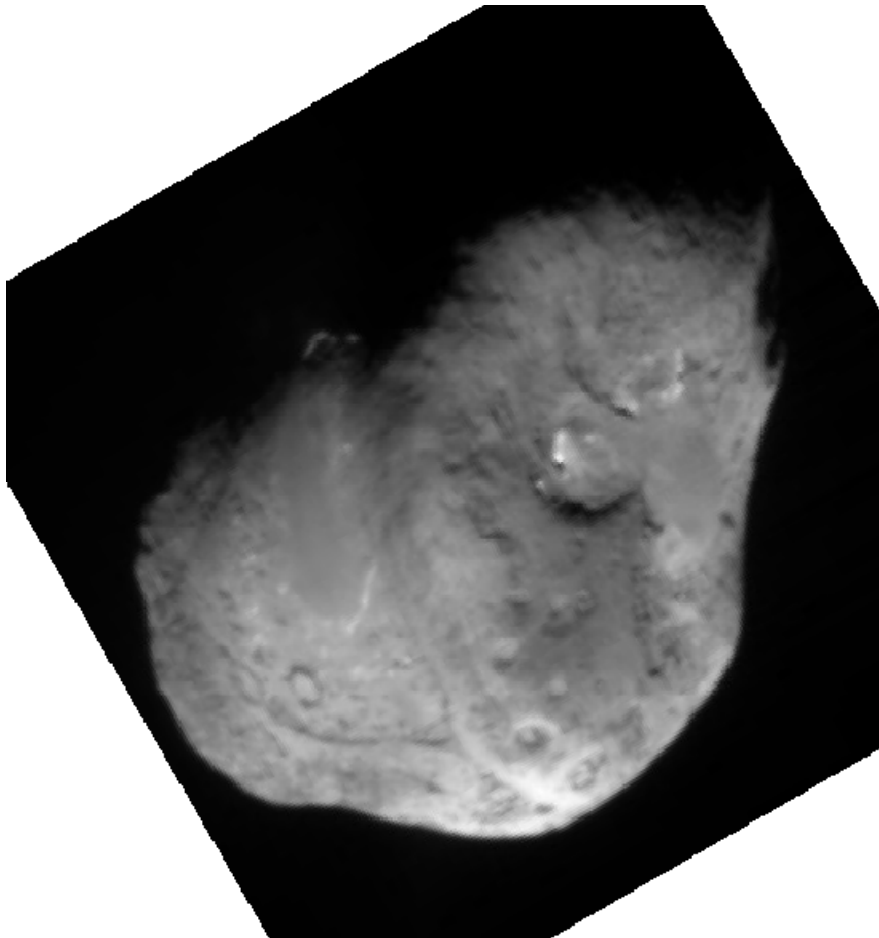
*Now we are searching for the
evidence of carbon based
compounds, the building blocks
of life!*



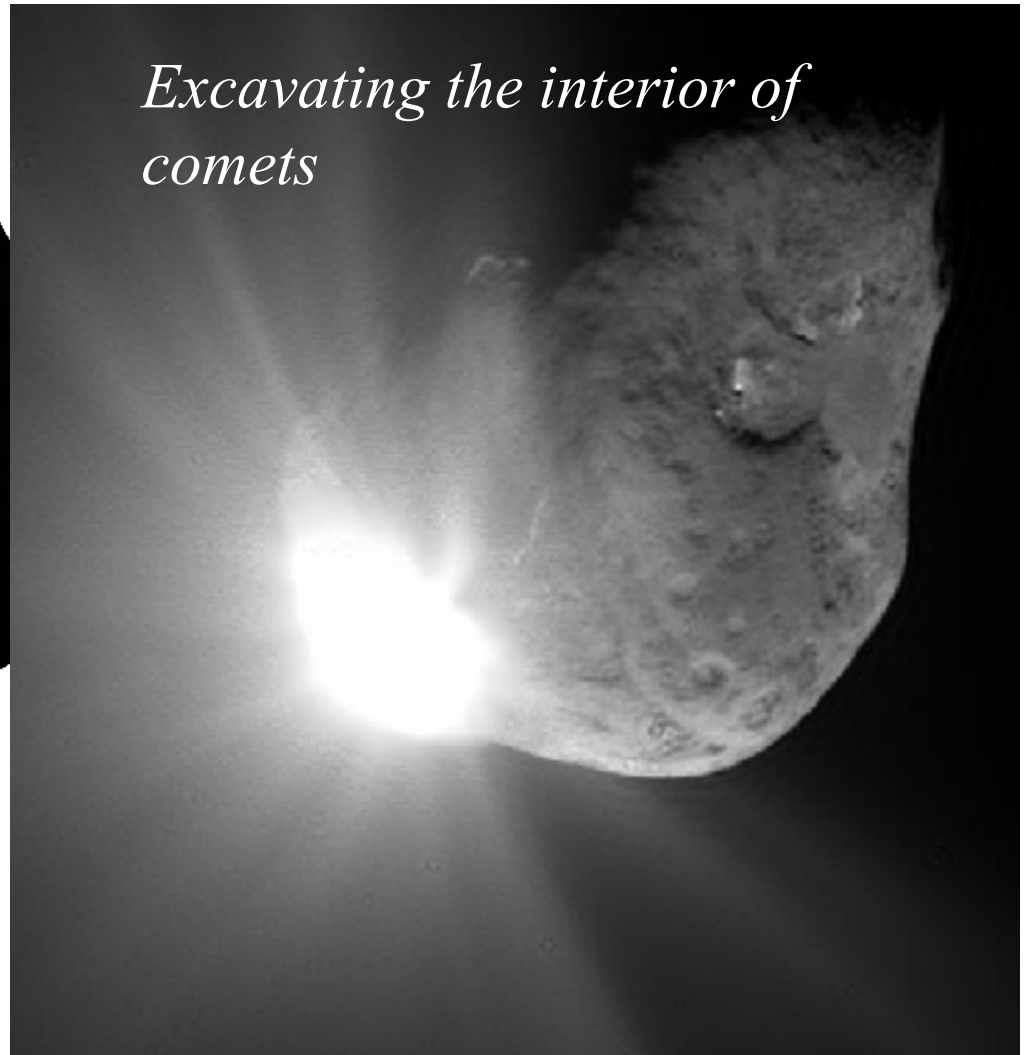
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Comet Tempel 1 before and after Deep Impact



*Excavating the interior of
comets*

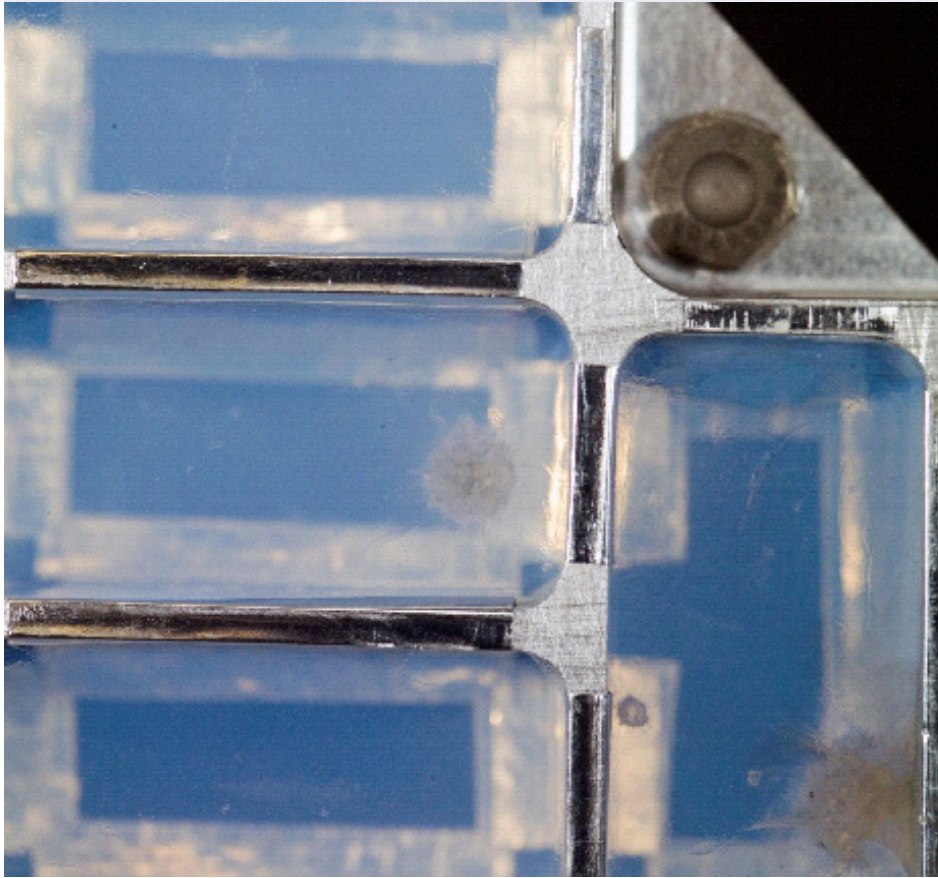




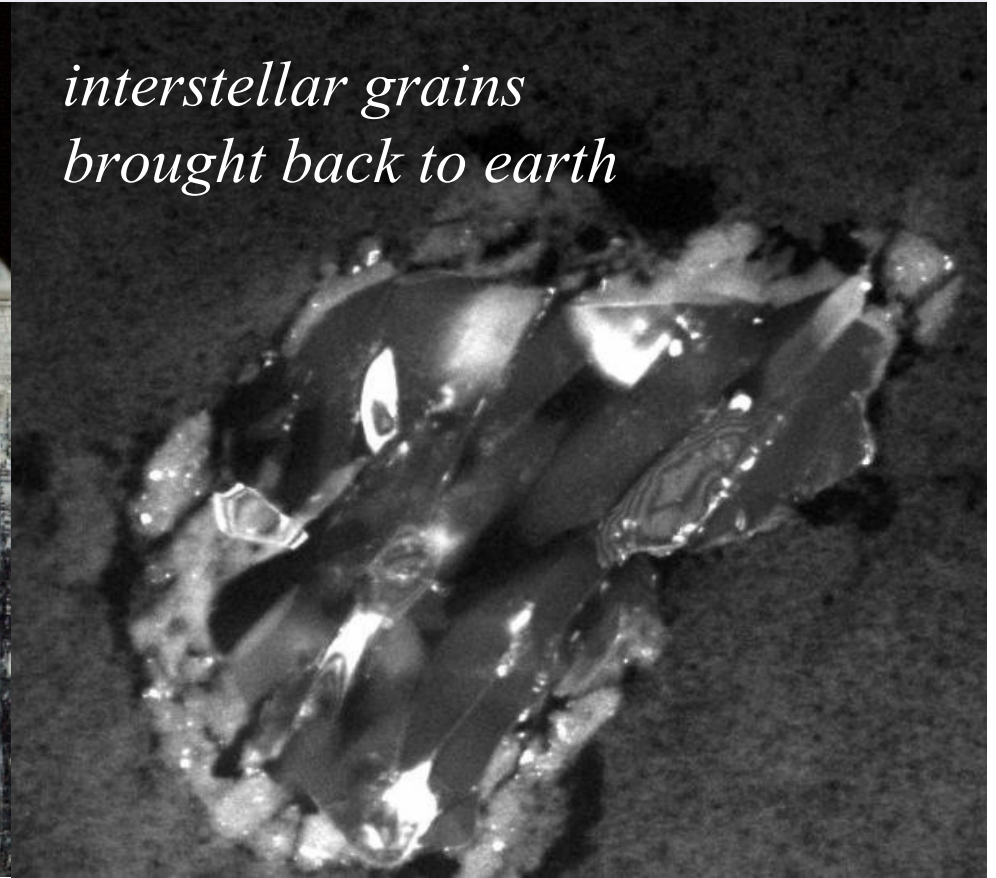
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Comet particle in Stardust's aerogel, and 2 micron particle extracted from aerogel



*interstellar grains
brought back to earth*





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Spitzer sees center of the galaxy

*Exploring the galaxy in
the infrared*



The Center of the Milky Way Galaxy

NASA / JPL-Caltech / S. Stolovy (Spitzer Science Center/Caltech)

Spitzer Space Telescope • IRAC

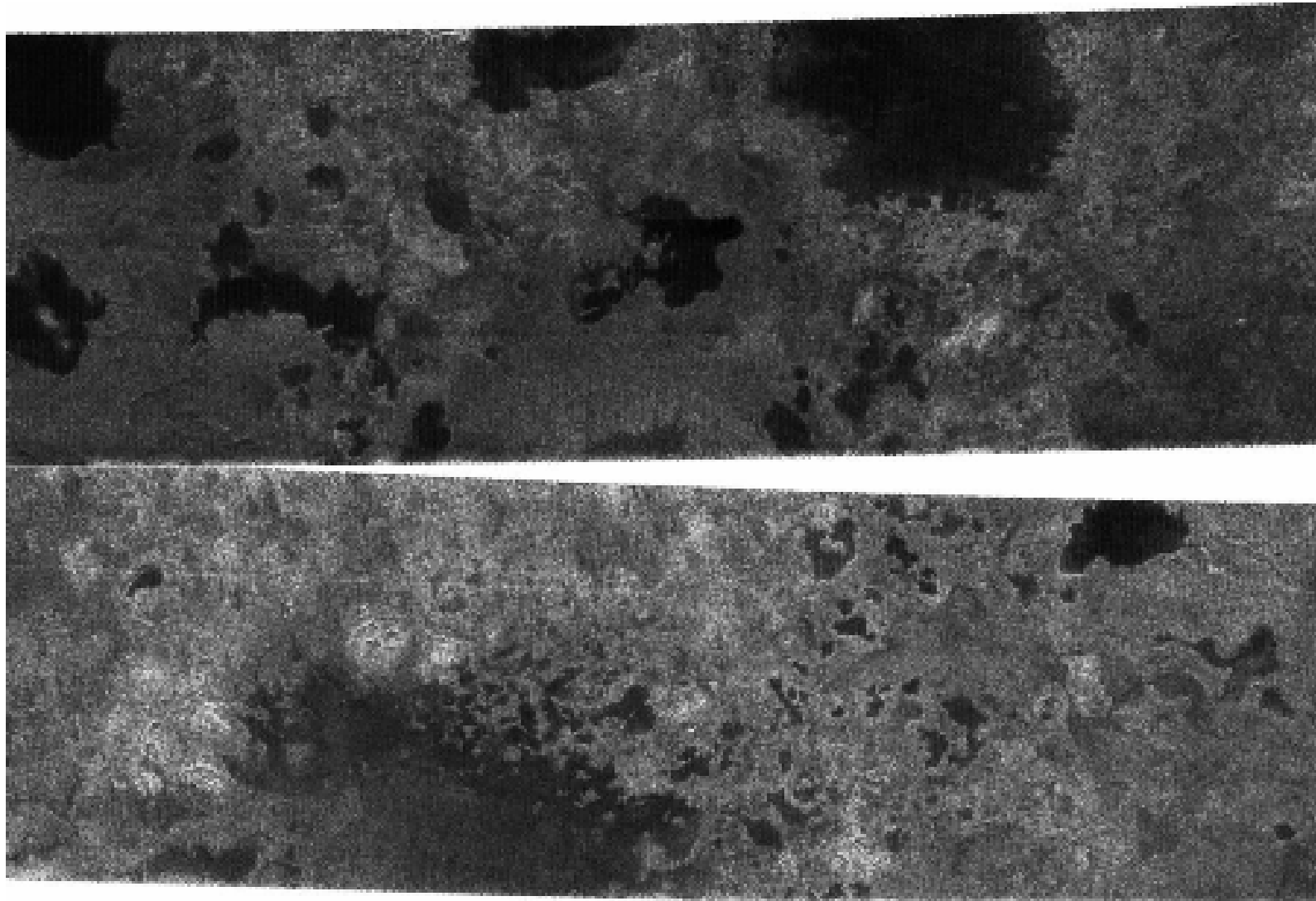
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Cassini's Titan radar sees “great lakes” near Titan’s north pole

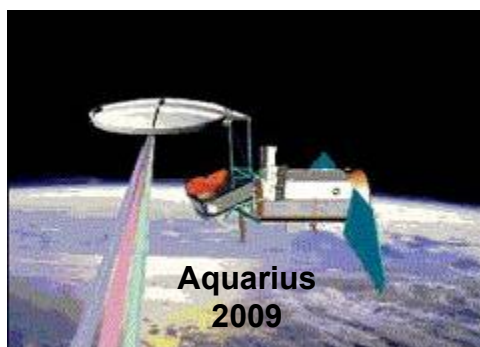
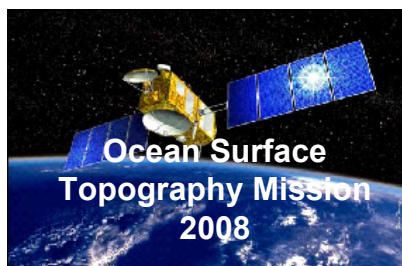
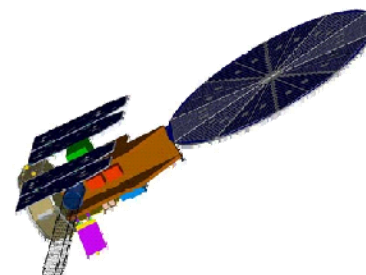




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Looking ahead: Missions under development



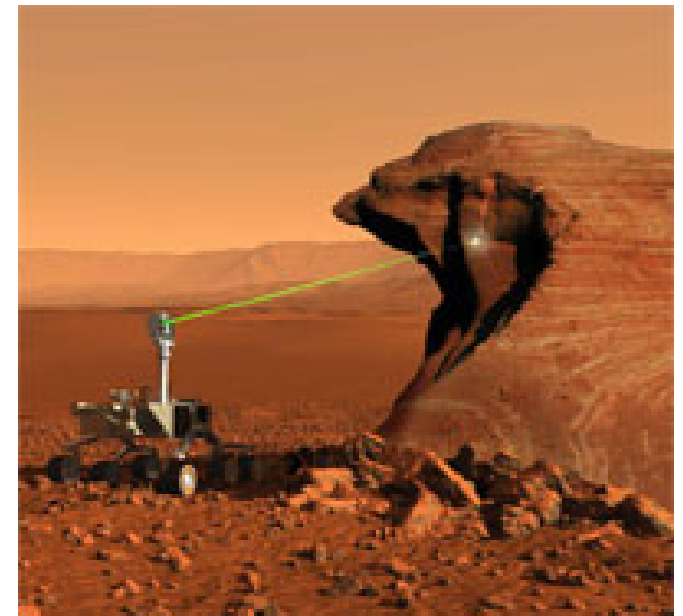


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Mars Science Laboratory: Was Mars a Habitat for Life?

- **Was Mars a habitat for life?**
 - Largest Rover Mission to date to be Launched in 2009 arrive 2010
 - Will search for carbon based compounds – the building blocks of life as we know it
 - On board laboratory is the most advanced suite of instruments for scientific studies ever sent to the Martian surface
 - Enables a huge step in Mars surface science and exploration capability
 - Landing heavy payload on SFC needed for sample return
 - Precision landing to previously inaccessible sites
 - Demonstrate long-range SFC mobility (20km)





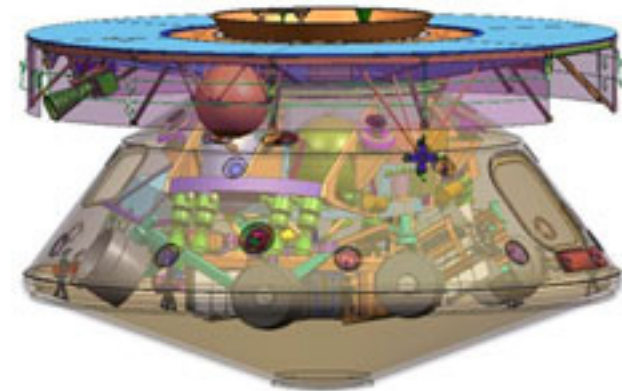
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Mars Science Laboratory: Technology

- **Spacecraft**

- Viking type 4.5 m Aeroshell for entry deceleration
- Precision guided entry enabling 20km sfc target radius
- Viking type parachute system deployed supersonically
- Power Descent Vehicle with retrorocket landing engines
- Skycrane to lower rover/lander to surface on tether



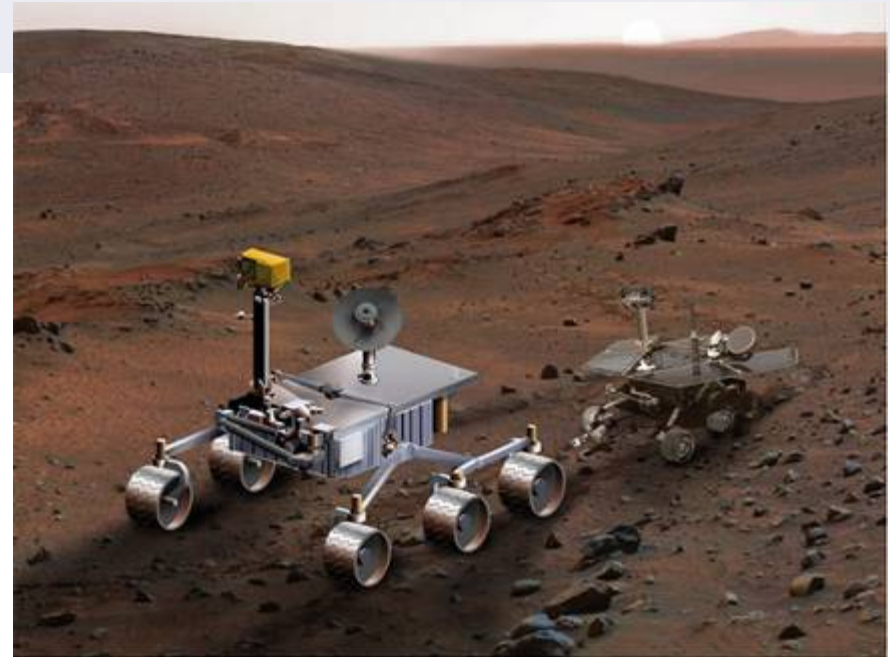


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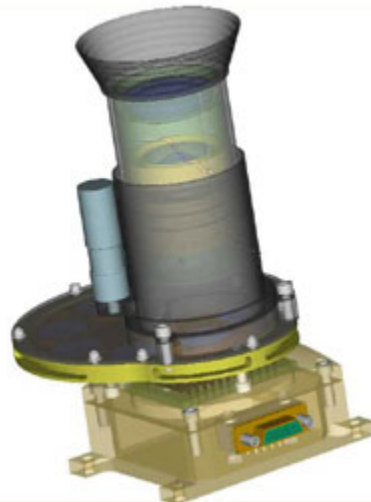
Mars Science Laboratory: Technology

- **Rover: largest and most capable**
 - 6 wheel mobility system
 - 850kg with an RTG power source
 - More than twice the size of MER
 - 20km range
 - Larger temp capability



Some of the Instruments

- X-ray spectrometer
- Chem-cam
- Rock core driller and crusher
- SAM: Laser and mass spec
- RAD – Radiation detector
- REMS – Weather monitor

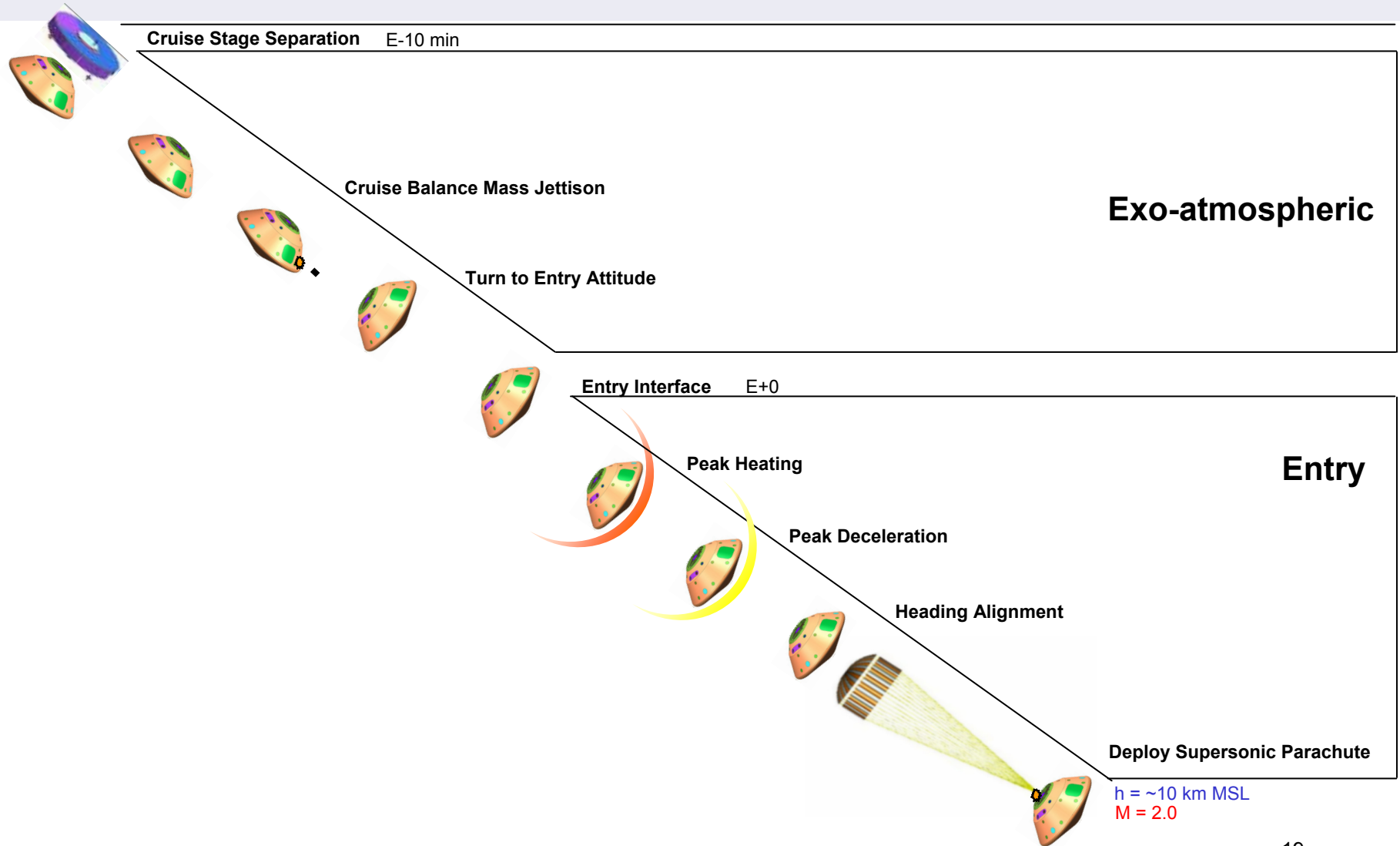


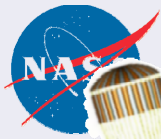


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Mars Science Laboratory: EDL



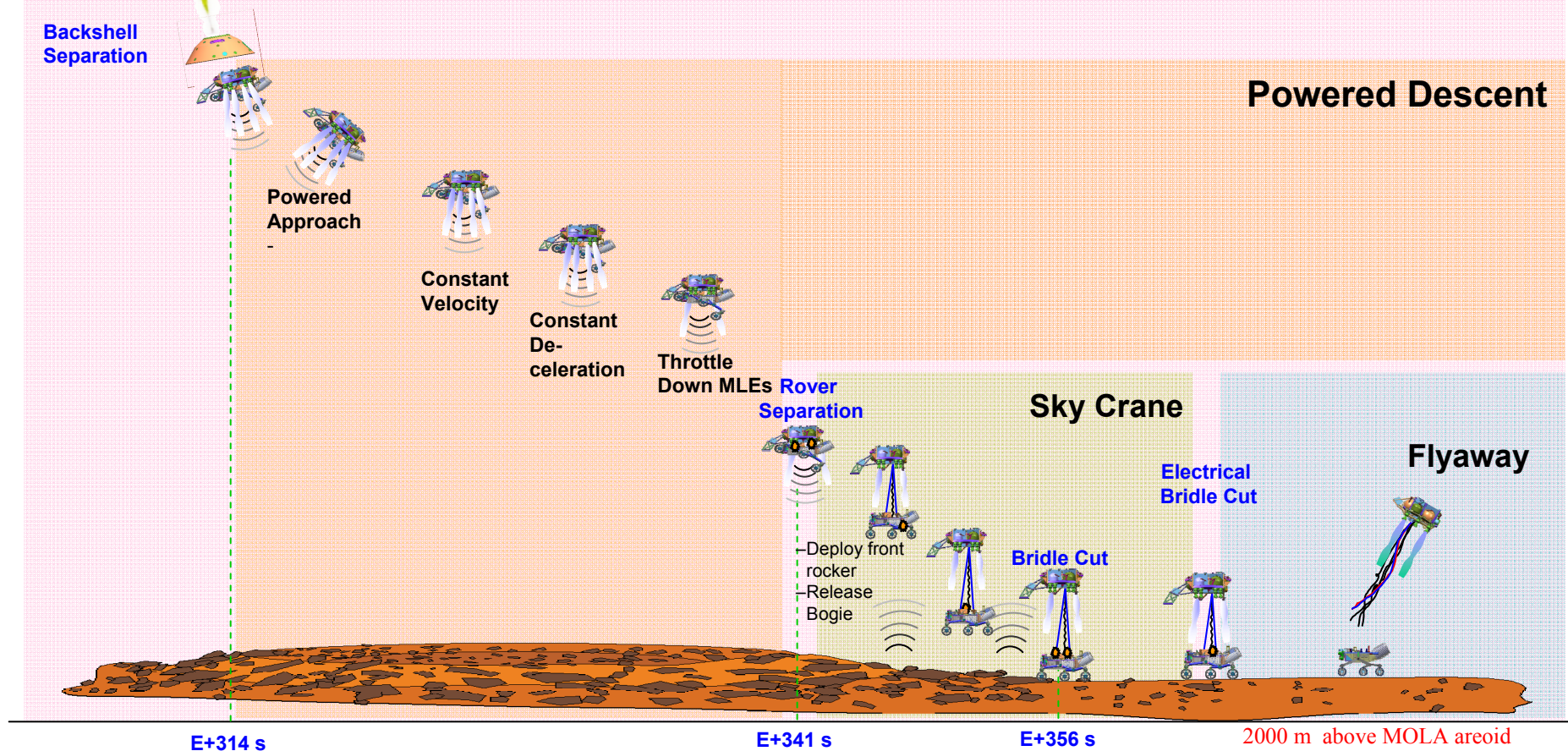


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Mars Science Laboratory: EDL

Powered Flight – Includes Powered Descent, Sky Crane, Flyaway



X-Band Tones →
UHF 2 kbps →



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Acknowledgements

<http://mars.jpl.nasa.gov> website for images